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electricity to the conveyance belt at the second voltage value when the conveyance failure is detected by the conveyance failure detection element.--

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IN THE CLAIMS:

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Please cancel Claims 6-10 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1-5, 11-13 and 15-17 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of Claims 1-5, 11-13 and 15-17, showing the changes made thereto, is attached. Note that all the claims currently pending in this application, including those not presently being amended, have been reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

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1. (Amended) A recording apparatus for rotating an endless belt member and supplying electricity to the belt member so as to attract a recording medium to the surface of the belt member and performing recording on the recording medium by a recording device, comprising:

an electrical feeding member capable of feeding selectively a first electrical voltage value for attracting the recording medium or a second electrical voltage value for releasing the attraction of the recording medium to a position of the endless belt member located opposed to the recording device;

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a conveyance failure detection element for detecting a conveyance failure of the recording medium; and

a control portion for performing control of said belt member and said electrical feeding member based on a detection signal of said conveyance failure detection element, said electrical feeding member feeding the second electrical voltage value to the position of the endless belt member located opposed to the recording device.

2. (Amended) The recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said conveyance failure detection element is a detection element which detects a separation gap of the recording medium on said belt member from said belt member in a direction toward said recording device.

3. (Amended) The recording apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a discharge portion for discharging a recorded recording medium outside the apparatus and said conveyance failure detection element is a discharge conveyance failure detection element for detecting the conveyance failure of the recording medium in the vicinity of the discharge portion.

4. (Amended) The recording apparatus according to any one of claim 1 to claim 3, wherein said recording device is an ink jet recording head for performing recording on the recording medium by emitting ink.

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5. (Amended) The recording apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said ink jet recording head uses thermal energy as energy for emitting the ink.

Claims 6-10 cancelled herein.

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11. (Amended) A recording apparatus provided with a conveying mechanism for conveying a recording medium, by using an endless belt member rotating in contact with the recording medium, to a position opposed to a recording device and an attracting device for attracting the recording medium to the endless belt member at the position opposed to the recording medium, said apparatus comprising:

a conveyance failure detection element for detecting conveyance failure of the recording medium which is attracted to the belt member and conveyed; and

a control portion for controlling the attracting device to reduce or remove an attraction force of the endless belt member at the position opposed to the recording device according to the detection of the conveyance failure by said conveyance failure detection element.

12. (Amended) The recording apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said attracting device comprises a plurality of electrodes which line up in such a manner as to be along a surface of the endless belt member that contacts the recording medium and an electrical feeding member for applying a voltage in such a manner that adjacent electrodes of said plurality of electrodes have different potentials.

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13. (Amended) The recording apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said plurality of electrodes are provided in the endless belt member.

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14. The recording apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said control portion controls said electrical feeding member in such a manner that the potentials of said plurality of electrodes are equalized according to the detection of the conveyance failure by said conveyance failure detection element.

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15. (Amended) The recording apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said control portion performs an elimination of a charge in said plurality of electrodes according to the detection of the conveyance failure by said conveyance failure detection element.

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16. (Amended) The recording apparatus according to any one of claim 11 to claim 15, wherein said recording device is an ink jet recording head for performing recording on the recording medium by emitting ink.

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17. (Amended) The recording apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said ink jet recording head uses thermal energy as energy for emitting the ink.

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